

**JUST PUBLISHED**

**THE NEW ENGLISH BIBLE**

Has now been completed — Two Editions are available.

Standard Edition 8" x 5½" without Apocrypha \$4.70  
with Apocrypha \$5.40

Library Edition 9" x 5½" Old Testament \$7.40

Apocrypha \$3.95

New Testament \$3.95

(Postage for each book 35c extra).

**WORTH READING**

**TEN FINGERS FOR GOD** by Dorothy Clarke Wilson

The true story of a surgeon's quest for an end to the ravages of leprosy.  
—\$1.30 (postage 15c).

**I'VE GIVEN UP ON PARENTS** by David Wilkerson

This book gives the insights into the problems of today's youth.  
—80c (postage 10c).

Send your order to: —

**The Church Army Bookshop**

TYRRELL HOUSE, P.O. BOX 784, NEWCASTLE 2300

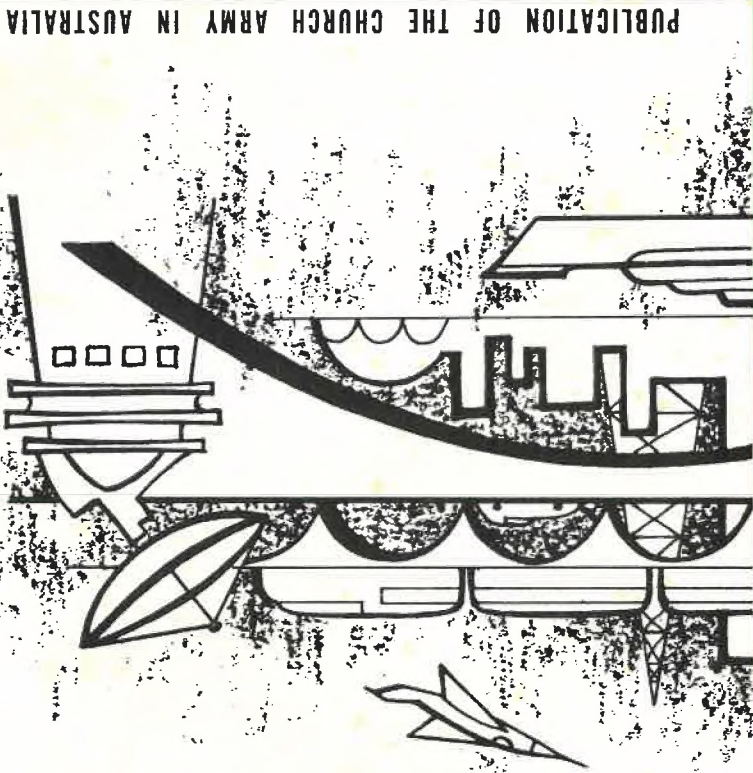
12

THE PIONEER, MARCH, 1970

Annual Subscription 50c posted.  
**MARCH, 1970**  
Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for  
transmission by Post as a Periodical.

**THE**

**PIONEER**



PUBLICATION OF THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA



Christ came to free us from "mammon" and all that it stands for. He knew we need "inner freedom," and we have to face facts in order to have

### Facing Truth

The whole Bible story seems centred around "freedom." This was evidently what Adam wanted in Eden. It was certainly what captive Israel in Egypt wanted. Mark you, when they got it and were "free" out in the desert they moaned like mad and complained about the hardships and wanted to get back to slavery once more [Ex. 16.3 etc.]. This is an experience we have again and again.

The Gospel for today is eventually very blunt. The "prodigal son" (Luke 15. 11 to end) ran away to obtain "freedom"; but lost not only his money, but self-respect and freedom. So he decided to go home, "make me as one of thy hired servants." Actually the loving father feasted him: but obviously if he stayed at home, responsibilities greater than ever in his boyhood "free" days, would have been inevitable. **So we are informed very clearly that we cannot have absolute liberty.** Man has the choice between two masters—God, or what the Bible calls "mammon," i.e. worldliness, avarice. (Matt. 6. 24).

### Man's Choice

The Gospel story also makes it clear that man unaided does not find God: actually, if man allows it, God always finds him (see for example John 15. 16). Christ had to enter Mammon's stronghold in order to rescue mankind: that is what the Cross is all about. Man is set free from the overwhelming power of selfishness (mammon) and is freed for service.

What is more, man unaided will fall again, and so the work of the Holy Spirit is to lead us into all the truth (John 16. 13).

We only have liberty then when we are in communion with God—recognizing his rule—(2 Cor. 3. 17—"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty").

This is a great emancipating message, so great that even creation itself can eventually share it with us. "The creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the liberty of the glory of the children of God." (Romans 8.21).

Daring, you say? Yes, very: but the Gospel for today is both revolutionary and daring. That's why so many men run away from it; we are always afraid to have our own.

(*This article is the second of a series originally printed in the English Church Army's magazine, "Spearhead," and is gratefully acknowledged.*)

### Freedom Regained

When a conference or seminar is held, no matter how good the speakers or stimulating the discussion, there is always the possibility that a short time after the event is over, there will be no tangible results to be seen. The greatest danger is that what has been said and discussed so earnestly will have been forgotten.

From the 26th to the 30th January we held our Staff Conference and the speakers certainly presented us with some invaluable material from the wealth of their experience and learning. For this we were most grateful. As all the Conference sessions were recorded on tape, eventually a complete Conference Report will be available to refresh our memories in the days to come.

Now the acid test will be over the next two years between now and our next conference, to see if we really learnt anything from all that was presented to us and from our discussions.

Perhaps the results of such a conference as ours can be likened in a sense to an ice-berg of which only about one eighth appears above the surface. The larger portion is hidden from immediate view and will be only gradually revealed.

I am quite sure of immediate results in certain directions, for instance, I believe our sense of unity and purpose as a Society was greatly strengthened and this must have its influence upon us for good. Also it emphasized to many of us, especially the younger officers, the need for continued and regular study and particularly for the obtaining of specialist qualifications and skills. This seems essential if

it. We have to be prepared to know the truth in which Pontius Pilate found himself (John 18. 38). And what is the truth? Christ declared himself to be the very personification of it (John 14. 6). He came to demonstrate the way to god. He came to show us the truth—that God has made man for Himself. **So it is in finding God, that a man finds his true self, and thus experiences freedom.** One of our prayers makes this clear when, speaking about God, it says "Whose service is perfect freedom."

## EDITORIAL

We look confidently to the future in our Lord's service and the more so because we know there are many fellow-christians upholding us continually in their prayers.

Prayer seems to be the right note on which to finish and so I draw your attention to the list of Officers on page eleven. This is supplied so that you may pray for us in our various work situations. The list is kept up to date and you will notice that there have been quite a number of new appointments recorded since the last issue of the magazine.

One of the very encouraging things which came from our discussions was a desire for a closer fellowship together in prayer. This may seem difficult to achieve when we are scattered in our work throughout the country. However the need for this was so strongly felt that it was decided, that in addition to our normal pattern of prayer for each other and our work, a monthly prayer list would be produced. This will comprise the praise and prayer requests of Officers as they make them known. Another encouragement was that an Officer immediately offered to produce this monthly prayer list and distribute it to all Officers.

As we look to the future from the experience of our recent Conference, we see more clearly the need for a re-appraisal of our training programme, of the recruitment of personnel and the pattern of the Society's work. All these important matters will occupy the thinking and prayers of our Board and our Officers in the months ahead.

we are to make the best possible contribution in the life and witness of our Church.





CHAPLAIN TO THE QUEEN ;  
to learn that the Chief Secre-  
tary of the Church Army in  
England, the Rev. Prebendary D. M. Lynch, had  
been appointed a Chaplain to Her Majesty the  
Queen. It is true to say that the world wide work  
of the Church Army has been honoured by the  
appointment.

Although it is too early to announce any details  
we are looking forward to a visit by Prebendary  
Lynch for about the first two weeks of February,  
1971. He plans to visit the Church Army in  
Eastern Africa and then come on to visit the  
Societies here and in New Zealand.

## Train to Serve

The Church Army needs Men and Women communicant members of the C. of E. in Australia to train for evangelistic and social work. Qualifications are—a good basic education, a realisation of God's call, qualities of leadership and a willingness to give truly dedicated Christian service.

- Two year residential course.
- Men and Women 19 to 33 years of age.

Write to :

The Candidates' Secretary,  
The Church Army in Australia,  
P.O. Box 107, French's Forest,  
N.S.W. 2086